

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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Amendments & Claim Status

[1] This "Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance" is responsive to "Preliminary Amendment" (Amendment) received Oct. 10, 2009. Claims 1-34 remain pending.

Response to Arguments

Remarks Persuasive regarding Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102, 103

[2] Amendment at 9-14 regarding rejected Claims 1-6, 8, 11, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Beernink (U.S. Patent No. 5,682,439), rejected Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beernink in view of Sparr (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0026638); rejected Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beernink in view of Kadashevich (U.S. Patent No. 5,970,170) have been respectfully and fully considered, and are found persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102, 103

[3] In response to Amendment at 9-14, the previous 35 U.S.C. § 102-103 rejections are withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

[4] **Claims 1-34** allowed.

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Reasons for Allowance

[5] The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding **Claim 1**, while the prior art of record teaches Claim 1, Apr. 22, 2009 (see Office Action at p. 6-7, Jul. 14, 2009), the prior art of record does not teach wherein at least two of the plurality of templates comprise different ones of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns which represent different handwritten ways of handwriting a single symbol.

The prior art of record compares users' handwritten symbol patterns to either standard template font or one user's personal template handwriting, but does not compare the users' handwritten symbol patterns to a plurality of templates comprising different ones of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns which represent different handwritten ways of handwriting a single symbol.

In addition, the prior art of record then does not teach presenting/displaying the best handwriting symbol pattern of the best template (a feature of Claims 1 and 33).

Claims 15, 33, and 34 allowable by analogy. Claims 2-14 and 16-32 allowable by dependency.

[6] Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

[7] The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: US 5787202 A; US 6035062 A.

[8] Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID P. RASHID whose telephone number is (571)270-1578 and fax number (571)270-2578. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday 7:30 - 17:00 ET.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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